CERM-B	Department of the Army U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	OM 37-1-8
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	Financial Administration	
	CONTROL OF OPERATIONS UNDER CONTINUING RESOLUTION AUTHORITY (CRA)	
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Washington, D. C. 20314-1000

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Financial Administration CONTROL OF OPERATIONS UNDER CONTINUING RESOLUTION AUTHORITY (CRA)

- 1. <u>Purpose</u>. This memorandum establishes a USACE CRA Operations Group to provide guidance and direction prior to and during periods when USACE must operate under a continuing resolution.
- 2. <u>Applicability</u>. This memorandum is applicable to all organizational elements of HQUSACE.

3. <u>References</u>.

- a. AR 37-1, Army Accounting and Fund Control.
- b. ER 600-1-09, Operations in Absence of Appropriations.
- c. OM 15-1-14, Corps of Engineers Resource Management Advisory Committees.
- 4. <u>Definition</u>. A continuing resolution is legislation enacted by Congress to provide budget authority for Federal agencies and/or specific activities to continue in operation until the regular appropriations are enacted. Continuing resolutions are enacted when action on appropriations is not completed by the beginning of a fiscal year. The resolution usually covers a fixed period of time and specifies a maximum rate at which the obligations may be incurred, based on the rate of the prior year, the President's budget request, or an appropriation bill passed by either or both Houses of the Congress.
- 5. <u>General</u>. As a fiscal year ends, there is increasing uncertainty within HQUSACE and among all Corps commands surrounding the possibility that Congressional appropriation enactments for the ensuing fiscal year will be delayed and that USACE may have to suspend activities or operate under continuing resolution authority. Because of the Corps unique command and budgeting channels (i.e., Department of Defense and Civil Works),

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there are many instances where differing conditions and instructions present themselves. This phenomenon tends to complicate any procedures to establish an orderly set of directions to both the headquarters and the field. HQUSACE, therefore, needs to employ a small operations group and orchestrate the entire CRA planning and execution process.

6. <u>Responsibilities</u>.

- a. On 15 August of each year there is automatically established a CRA Operations Group that reports directly to the Deputy Commanding General.
 - b. This group is charged with the responsibility to
- (1) receive and review all instructions, directives, and guidance from higher authorities pertaining to operations under, or in absence of a CRA;
- (2) answer all inquiries regarding CRA operations from subordinate USACE commanders, as well as non-Corps sources; and,
- (3) issue all instructions, directives, and guidance regarding CRA operations to subordinate USACE commanders. This responsibility does not supplant the need for program directors to exercise their normal resource allocation decisions. The release of information, however, will be exercised by this group.
- c. This group is to be viewed as the "single HQUSACE voice" of the USACE Commander regarding CRA operations. This group will remain empowered to act as such until the Deputy Commanding General suspends its operations.
- d. The group will be headed by the Chief, Budget and Programs Division, Directorate of Resource Management, and be composed of one representative or alternate from each of the

following. Each representative or alternate will be empowered to act for his/her director or chief.

- (1) Office of the Chief of Staff
- (2) Directorate of Civil Works
- (3) Directorate of Military Programs
- (4) Directorate of Real Estate
- (5) Chief Counsel
- Directorate of Research and Development (6)
- (7) Directorate of Human Resources
- e. By necessity of command and control, this group can temporarily suspend any decisions made by any of the Resource Management Committees established under reference 3c.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

ROBERT L. HERNDON

Colonel, Corps of Engineers Chief of Staff